



ST HELIER
NEIGHBOURHOOD
IMPROVEMENT
AREAS

Minutes of a Meeting of the Poonah Road/ Pomona Road Neighbourhood Improvement Group held in the Le Capelain Gallery, Town Hall on 12 April 2023.

Chairman: Simon Crowcroft (SC)

Deputies: Catherine Curtis and Rob Ward

SC welcomed everyone to the Meeting and began by recapping the feedback that was received from the initial survey that was sent out to residents.

He then explained that following the survey, the issues that were looked at were:

- The state of the roads and pavements
- Signage
- High sided vehicles being allowed to park in the Residents Parking Zones (RPZs)
- The abuse of the RPZs in general
- Areas for trees and greenery

The residents present at the meeting provided the following feedback:

- There are a number of traffic issues including cars going the wrong way down access only streets and using the access only streets as rat runs. SC suggested that the Parish needs to look into why these cars are using the roads in the way that they are. SC explained that he was keen on bringing Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) to the island to assist with issues like this. SC confirmed that there could be an increase in wardens enforcing the rules inside the NIAs.
- In relation to the abuse of the RPZs, SC ensured residents that tip-offs of abuse are looked into and that a review of the RPZ system is being undertaken in the Summer to ensure that it can no longer be abused.
- SC highlighted that the street furniture (planters, bollards, etc) inside the NIA are unattractive eyesores and the Parish is looking into replacing all street furniture but needs to ensure that it does it in a way that can be rolled out across the Parish.
- The issue of trees being cut down was raised and Deputy Ward reassured residents that legislation is on its way to protect trees from being chopped down.
- It was raised that a nearby hotel frequently brings workers over from the UK who then park their work vans inside the NIA and bump into the street furniture attempting to get into tight driveways. An idea was discussed to create an area for travelling workmen to park their vehicles that is not clogging up town streets and RPZs.
- It was highlighted that there are many households with multiple cars which for the most part is unnecessary. It was agreed that the bus service should be made more attractive as an alternative by reducing the cost and increasing services.

- SC explained that in some UK cities there is a tax for Private Non-Resident Parking (PNRP) for those renting spaces as commuters, with the tax collected going towards improving bus and cycling routes.
- The residents present at the meeting were keen on the idea of an active neighbourhood group who care about the area, who can keep the NIA going, report back to the Parish with any issues and who the Parish can contact, for example if the depot has spare bulbs that could be planted.
- The idea of dog poo pins with free dog poo bags was brought up and the deputies present confirmed that this had already been trialled and had not worked as people kept stealing the bags, but it was suggested that perhaps we could try again and persevere with the idea.
- SC explained that he believes if we can get one NIA right then the culture built can grow and spread into more streets.
- An issue with the current streetlighting was raised that the location of one streetlight is directly outside a resident's bedroom window. It was suggested that streetlights or the ones directly affecting residents could be turned off between certain hours. Heritage lighting was also suggested as it is a much softer light.
- The road and pavement surfacing was raised with the suggestion of granite pavements or shared spaces whereby the pavements and road are paved in the same way.

The suggested improvements from the feedback that was received from the previous meeting and the survey is as follows:

- Pavements could be resurfaced in granite
- Hanging baskets with irrigation system to replace bollards
- More bins and nicer looking bins
- More trees where services allow
- Street lighting could be replaced with Heritage style lamps
- Improved signage and create of a 'neighbourhood' entrance treatment
- ROXEM hydraulic mortar to create entrances and exit ways to alert motorists they are entering a residential neighbourhood.

SC went on to explain the next steps of the process:

1. Assess the feedback from the meeting and update the whole NIA
2. Engage Societe Jersias to investigate the history of Pomona and Poonah Road, including any opportunities for 'blue plaques' (where a person of interest has lived somewhere) and provide a presentation for resident.
3. Investigate further the proposed street furniture to ensure longevity (supply/maintenance) and consistency of lighting, bins, seating, bollards, etc across the Parish NIAs.
4. Carry out environmental work on proposed planting especially opportunities to enhance biodiversity and promote water conservations.
5. Examine any proposals for sustainable transport initiatives that will impact the streets especially in relation to walking and cycling.
6. Investigate funding requirements and potential income schemes.
7. Report back to the Steering Group by the end of May.